

# ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.



ALEXANDRIA, VA.

THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 24, 1882.

## FROM WASHINGTON

(Special Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., August 24, 1882.—

It is well known that when Mr. Blaine first

went into President Garfield's cabinet he

was opposed to the Mahone movement and

had no hesitancy in saying so. It is equally

well known that he subsequently withdrew

his opposition to that movement, but, and

in this respect he was equally as frank in

saying that he did so solely and simply

because the President and all his cabinet

saw only himself were in favor of that

movement, and that as he was to remain

in the cabinet, he wanted it to be a united

one, and for that reason, while doing nothing

to aid the movement referred to would

do nothing to oppose it. As the conditions

have changed, Mr. Blaine, it is said, has

changed with them, and intelligence from

various quarters in Virginia is to the effect

that the ex-Secretary is exerting what

influence he possesses in that State in favor

of the Mahoneites and debt paying

movement. Of course his influence is only

operative upon those who think that he will

be either the leader or the Warwick in the

next national republican campaign, but its

effect, according to the intelligence referred

to, shows that Mr. Blaine in Virginia, at least,

is still a power in the land.

Mr. Richard Merrick commenced his

speech in the prosecution of the Star route

swindlers to-day, and the knowledge that

he would do so attracted a large crowd to

the Court House and reawakened the inter-

est in that trial which was previously

on a decided wane. He is making a power-

ful argument for the Government, and it

must have immense effect upon the jury,

that is, unless that jury has been "fixed"

with "ginger," as many suppose the grand

jury was, which failed to observe anything

in Walch's testimony upon which to base

an indictment.

Mr. Roddick Butler, who formerly, as

Houck and Moore are now, was a sealer

member of the House from Tennessee, and

who obtained notoriety by selling a cadet-

ship at West Point in the open market, is

here, but his society is not hankered

after by the reputable men who formerly

associated with him. The Republicans of his

State, but are afraid to put him up for Con-

gress again.

A naval officer who recently brought his

vessel into Hampton Roads will, it is un-

derstood, be court-martialed for employing a

pilot, as such officers are supposed to be

able to do without pilots at such open har-

bours as that at Hampton Roads. It will

be remembered that two naval officers were

disciplined for the same offense at New

York some time ago.

Register Bruce, of the Treasury Depart-

ment, is of the impression that the defect in

the transfer provision printed on the back

of the new 3 per cent. bonds is a fatal one,

and must necessitate their reprinting. Sec-

retary Folger is responsible for the defect

and its probable cost, forty thousand dollars.

The Secretary has not yet arrived and every

day he is absent delays the exchange of the

bonds.

The negroes of this city, who know about

as much and no more of what is going on in

Choctaw county, Alabama, than of what is

happening in the moon, are to hold a pub-

lic meeting here next Saturday night and

formally deny the statement that the men

of their race in the county referred to had

conspired to massacre the white people of

that county.

Col. Popham has returned to this city. An

impartial investigation of his case will show

that about half a million dollars passed

through his hands during the time he was

clerk of the U. S. Court for the eastern dis-

trict of Virginia, that he had at his disposal

blank checks signed by the Judge of the

Court, and that what happened to him

might have happened to any other man who

after a twelve year's term of office was

suddenly called upon to settle. After a little

time he did settle all his accounts in a man-

ner perfectly satisfactory to the parties in-

terested.

Judge Hughes, of the U. S. Court for the

Eastern District of Virginia, has been re-

quested by the President to hold the U. S.

Court for the Western District of that State

until the vacancy occasioned by the retire-

ment of Judge Rives can be filled, which

will probably not be until the next session

of Congress, and he will do so.

It is reported from the Norfolk district, in

Virginia, to-day that everybody there con-

cedes the utter defeat of the Mahone move-

ment in that district. It is said that should

Mr. Phelps agree to accept the nomination

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